

her members walk orderly and uprightly, are not given to drunkenness or anything unbecoming to Christ's disciples; keep themselves unspotted from the world and her religions, and are zealous in every good work. Let the elders be humble and exemplary in their lives, being careful to walk worthy of the vocation wherein they are called, and always to preach the truth and expose error. My dear brother, I feel unworthy of the office of elder, and often doubt my ever being called to it. I desire the prayers of you and all the saints that may read this communication.

May the Lord bless you and all the dear saints every where, and enable every one to faithfully discharge his duties, is the sincere prayer of your unworthy brother.

THOS. J. BAZEMORE, Jr.

DAVIDSON COUNTY, N. C., }
March 31, 1869. }

Brother Editor and Dear Brethren and Sisters:—I have concluded to write a few lines for the Landmarks, if they will prove worthy, but I feel so unworthy and so inferior to others, that it is almost a task; but when I read the sweet communications from others, coming from distant lands, I feel like I want to tell them something of my feelings; and as all who felt willing were requested to write, if I was able to write to edification, I would be thankful; but I feel so imperfect, I see my imperfections so plain, that I think I cannot be worthy a name amongst you: but we read that the Lord shall judge the people. I never wrote but once before this for the public, and that was my experience, which I knew by heart; I don't feel like I would ever forget that while I know anything, I have perused it so often. I get in Doubting's Castle and wander about a long time, and then I have to go back and peruse my experience, and when I get through, I can say, like one of old,

"One thing I do know,
I was once blind, but now I see."

Then I am enabled to believe that there is a change wrought in me, then get a crumb from the Master's table; Oh, how sweet it tastes! Dear brethren and sisters, I reckon if you have been like your unworthy writer, you have got very sorrowful and dejected in mind, and think, why are my winters so long, and get so hungry for a cluster of pleasant fruit from Canaan; if you chance to get a cluster of ripe grapes from Canaan, oh,

how sweet! They taste sweeter than the honey and the honeycomb. It has been a great consolation to me to hear the dear old pilgrims talk about their travels, their experience, and so on; and when their wings touch each other, oh, what love it creates in the soul! I have been made to wonder, (I am a wonder to myself,) how it was that God would call such a sin defiled worm of the dust out of darkness into his marvellous light. I often am constrained to say, with one of old, in me, that is in my flesh, dwelleth no good thing, then I think,

"Why was I made to hear his voice,
And enter while there's room,
While thousands make a wretched choice,
And rather starve than come."

I think I ought to be the most thankful being on earth, I ought to love my God supremely. When I get with the dear old saints, and hear them talk of their travel, and it corresponds with what I think I have experienced, then I get encouraged to march on; I think if I am deceived, there are more so. I used to read that sweet little messenger, the Primitive; it afforded me great satisfaction to hear from the dear brethren and sisters that are scattered in distant lands; I found out through the paper that there was a few of the dear old persecuted Baptists scattered about. I believe that the Lord will have a people that will hold up His name while time lasts, until the last jewel is made up, though they are not so numerous as some, and that makes me prize them so high. God said he did not choose Israel because they were the most in number, but because they were the fewest of all people. We read that there is but few to be saved; well, I am bound to believe what the good book says; I believe in revelation; I am bound to believe that agreeable to my experience; how could I have believed on Jesus, unless it had been revealed from above? We read that faith is the gift of God. I have no righteousness of my own; I am dependent on God for all spiritual blessings that I receive. The first of my feeling delivered from my distress, it appeared a still small voice, and seemed to whisper in my ear that my sins were forgiven. I believe the Bible to be the written word of God; I have no use for anything outside of the Bible. I view God to be a just and holy God, able to save all that come unto him: He says come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest. I believe that God

has all power in heaven and earth, and he will save his elect in spite of all other power; that is just such a God as I desire to worship, one that I can rely on, for if I have to get to heaven by my own good works, I shall never get there. Now brethren, let us trust this God who works all things after His own will, and has promised that all things shall work together for good to them who are the called according to His purpose; so let Him be God and we his poor needy creatures, looking to Him and depending on Him to work in us to will and to do that which is right and acceptable before Him, for He says, ye, the saints or the church, are my workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which he hath before ordained that ye should walk in them; hence we, brethren, should pray to this God to enable us to walk according to His ordination and work in us a desire to pray to Him and trust in Him for life and salvation.

SARAH CLINARD.

Editorial.

Wilson, N. C., May 1.

ELDER L. I. BODENHAMER,
EDITOR.

BIG LICK, STANLEY Co., N. C., }
April 18th, 1869. }

ELDER L. I. BODENHAMER—*Dear Brother:*—I again seat myself to inform you that I am well, hoping this to reach you safe and find you and family in good health.

Dearly beloved brother in the Lord, as I have written you several letters and not heard from you, I hardly know whether to write again or not. We have wrote inquiring letters to High Point, and received no answer from you. I then heard you were at Gibsonville, and wrote you a letter there, but received no answer. I have lately heard you had moved your office back to High Point. I feel in great hopes of hearing from you. The people in this section of country, both church and world, seems to be very anxious to hear you preach. I feel like it would be no task for me to ride twenty miles to hear you preach; so, dear brother, if you have any impression of mind to visit this country, do give us an appointment, as it seems we are almost destitute of the true Gospel among us; it is true we have brother Clark and brother Little and brother Rushing, in the bounds of the Bear Creek Associa-

tion. There is no doubt but they labor faithful in the vineyard of the Lord and preach the truth. So, as I believe the doctrine of choice, I have a choice in who I hear preach; so, if you can give us an appointment any time this Spring or Summer, we shall be glad to hear from you.

Yours in the bonds of love,
WM. COLEY.

KERNERSVILLE, }
April 16th, 1869. }

WM. COLEY—*Dear Brother:*—Yours of April 10th to hand. I was glad to hear from you. This leaves us all well. This is the only letter I have received from you. I received it last night, it being remailed to me from High Point. You will please be informed that all your informants are mistaken as to my whereabouts. I live near Kernersville, Forsyth County. I have not moved my office to High Point. My paper is yet published at Wilson, N. C. I send you a copy of "Zion's Landmarks." You will see the terms of subscription in the paper. If you can get me up a club of five cash subscribers, and forward to me, with your name at the head of the list as agent, you will receive six copies of the paper; the sixth paper will be sent to you free of subscription price, for the year, for making up the club. In regard to visiting your section this Summer, I fear it will be out of my power, as my circumstances are such that I am not able to travel by public conveyance, and I have no horse. I would be pleased to see and try to preach to the dear saints in your section if I could. I think if the brethren would all support my paper, that in a short time I could be situated so as to travel and preach more in destitute places. I want to live and die in the service of our dear Saviour, preaching and writing in defence of the glorious truths of the gospel of the Son of God. I receive many expressions of comfort from the brethren—received through my labors as an editor. This encourages me to